for the comfort of my men.

The afternoon of Friday, the 3d instant, I spent with a small party of my Company and Lieutenant Rudd in careful reconnoisance from the top of Great Cacapon Mountain, taking observations from prominent points, for a distance of 21 miles. these points we could plainly see indications of the presence in the valley between us and the Warm Spring Mountain of a a large force of the enemy. We estimated it at not less than 3,000 men, and in the distance to the South, two ex-

I accordingly extended my pickets on the mountain during the night, and ordered my men to sleep on their arms. On Saturday, I threw out a party of 21 men. under Lieutenant Rudd, to the top of the mountain, with instructions to observe the enemy, (which we then positively knew to be approaching Bath in large force,) and to embarrass the approach of any force that might be sent against us. At about 11 o'clock, A. M., information was brought me that a column of three regiments was approaching by the Bath road, It was deemed probable also that a force would be brought against us by the Long Hollow from the Bloomery Gap. This supposition was enhanced by the fact, which I had learned, that the movement against Bath was simultaneously made by large forces by the way of Sleepy Creek and the valley east of the Great Cacapon Mountain. I therefore directed Capt, Dyche with his company to occupy the approaches by the Long Hollow, and points across to the bluffs of the Great Cacapon Creek, and tock measures to defend the bridge and ford with my Company and the detatchment from Company E, under Lieutenant Whipple.

Breastworks of timber and railroad ties had been constructed during the day at, and on each side of the bridge, and planted plain. strong defences along the bluffs of the

Lieutenant Whipple, with thirty men was posted at the bridge, and the balance of my force (except the detatchment under Lieutenant Rudd,) disposed on the bluffs

under command of Lieut. Savage. Valuable service was rendered, during the day, by the detachment under Lieut, Rudd. Having the whole valley west of the Great Cacapon Mountain before him. he was able to note every movement and disposition of the enemy, and to perceive their strength. The column advancing against us, consisted of three regiments of infantary and one piece of artillery . To check so large a force was a desperate undertaking for twenty-two men, but as the event proved, not an impossible one. Selecting a position near a bend in [the parrow road which they knew the column must pass, our boys knelt on one knee and awaited its approach. Not until the foremost files were within twelve rods was the presence of the party suspected, and then at the criticle moment when the discovery had caused hesitation in their files, they coolly delivered their fire. Several of the enemy were seen to fall, and the head of the column was thrown into confusion. Our party retreated to another shelter, The enemy was then held at bay for three hours, and it was not until the darkness of night covered them that they ventured to descend the mountain. Lieut, Rodd ex presses the highest admiration of the coolness and detirmination of the men. The whole execution of his part was such as to effect the highest honor upon him.

The 13th Indiana, under Lieut. Col. Foster, arrived on the ground at Great Cacapon about six o'clock in the evening. Col. Foster declined to take the command and our plans were not changed. Had the enemy descended the west side of the Great Cacapon Mountain before dark nothing could have saved the 13th, as its retreat would have been effectually cut off I am firmly convinced that its salvation is due to the courage and skill of the detachment that occupied the mauntain road. About 7 o'clock we became aware of the

fact that the enemy were fixing a gun in position to attack as. Deeming it probaole that we should be obliged to retire before their superior force, I directed that all the company baggage and stores should be placed in a car, so as to facillitate our retreat when fit became necessary. Our lodging was not completed when the enemy opened fire on us with his cannon. The engineer immediately strrted the train and moved around the curve about two miles, where it could lie in safety The 13th Indiana, being in the cars, was caried along.

Our men stationed at the bridge, under command of Lieut Whipple, could distinct ly perceive the position of the enemy's gun and they answered its fire with their mus-After the second shot the gun was deserted, and it gave us no further trouble A large force of the infantry, at about the same time, made its appearance at the creek, and replied with muskets. Our men being well protected were able to maintain their position with impunity The skipmishing continued for about three quarters of an hour after the departure of the train. A company of cavalry and a regiment of infantry made a show o purpose to cross the ford opposite the bluff occupied by Lieut. Savage. They were handsomely repelled. I was confident that the position could be maintained at Great Cacapon, provided the Indiana regiment could return and take part in the defence. I accordingly depatched a message to Col Foster with the request that he would bring down his force and assume the command. Before the messenger reached him however, word was brought me that the enemy had crossed the creek a mile and a half above and were likely to cut off our

All was quiet in our front, except the the sound of a carriage on the mountain road, which indicated the descent of more artillery. The cavalry and infantry had retired from the ford and the neighborhood of the bridge. Our only immediate danger was that our retreat would be cut off by the force which had crossed above, and that danger was represented to be imminent. I therefore ordered a retreat, which was effected in good order. We reached the train and moved with it to Green Spring. Nothing is known of the effect of our fire further than the fact that the enemy deemed it prodent to retire out of range of our muskets.

I have the honor to be Your obedient servant,

W. B. SLAUGHTER, Capt. Commanding at Great Cacapon. P. S -Since the above report was written we have positive and reliable information that the enemy lost seventeen men in the Great Cacapon affair, including Dr. Wilson, a distinguished and influential citizen of Morgan county, and surgeon in the rebelarmy. W. B. SLAUGHTER.

DEATH OF JOHN TYLER -Richmond papers of the 17th igst., announce the death of Ex President Tyler. His illness was sudden and his death unexpected. He after prelonged elaborate arguments on the was a member of the rebel Congress now part of Messrs. Snapp & Breckinridge in in session at Richmond, and his death is a behalf of the prisoner and by States At- with more than its due proportion of the severe loss to the secessionists. While President of the United States, his adher- ple, was granted a new trial. This action ence to the constitution and veto of the of the Court was proper, if the representamansworth money oligarchy sought to be tions made by the prisoner's counsel be from Russia. If so, Jim Lane, and Pheips, fastened upon the country by the old fed- true, but it does appear to us that the eferol dynasty, won for him the gratitude | fort to manufacture sympathy in favor of and respect of every lover of constitutional | the prisoner, until it has been proved that obediance and equal rights. But his recent he did not commit the awful murder, the projection with the conspiracy to everthro' account of which shocked this whole com-

JOLIET SIGNAL.

JOLIET, ILLINOIS.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY .

Tuesday, January 28, 1862.

The Bank Question in the Con-

vention. It is a source of sincere pleasure to us to perceive that there is a spirit in our constitutional convention to protect the people in future against shin-plaster manufacturies in this State.

The committee on banks, composed of the ablest men in the State, have reported a provision which, if adopted by the convention, will save the people from being plundered by the wholesale, by a set of irresponsible sharpers. The proposition is, that no more banks be chartered; that no existing charters shall be revived; and that no foreign bills of a less denomination than ten dollars shall circulate in the State. Strong prosition will doubtless be made to its adoption by members of the convention and by the speculating interests generally; but the honest representatives of the peoplethey who regard the rights and interests of those who gain their bread by legitimate callings-and the great mass of the people themselves, will insist on the anti bank provision being made a part of the new con

No arguments are necessary to convince the people of Illinois of the pernicious effects of banks. They have learned this fact from painful experience. Millions and millions have been filched from their hard earnings by the paper money system. From the first organization of the State until the present time, we have been cursed with insolvent and swindling banks .-There is not a man in the State, who has resided here any length of time, that has not experienced the evils of which we com-

Now, as a period in the history of our State has arrived, when if proper measures be adopted, the great work of redeeming this commonwealth from the curse of a bad bank system may be accomplished, we trust that the golden opportunity will be improved. No honest, intelligent man will pretend to deny that the banking system, as it exists and has existed in this State axiom of political sconemy and morals .-The time for banishing from amongst us institutions for flooding our State with paper promises as a currency is now. A bank. some process or other. ing system is no benefit to the people at large. It benefits those only who live by and Means in the House of Representatheir wits and fraudalent transactions, and not those who, by their labor, acquire an | ing \$150,000,000 annually by direct taxes. honest livelihood and enrich the country.

raise the plea that the banking system is upon us immediately. Therefore, our peoso mixed up with all our commercial and ple should be preparing themselves for the business affairs that it cannot be eradicated approach of the Government tax-gatherer. without danger to the body politic. Others He will soon be around, when they will contend that no community can prosper by made to feel more vividly the folly of without a paper money currency and banks. their political errors. Both of these conclusions are erroneous .-In reply to the first we will say that the facts we have to deal with now. Every banks are prohibited in the State constitu | by hard, but is inevitable.

We believe the only safe circulating medium is gold and silver, and it is the only escaped assassination on the night of the one that should be recognized in our new 22d inst. He was on his way to his fathconstitution. The currency of the country er's about three miles from Crete, with a should be founded on a basis that cannot be dissipated or effected by panics, revolutions in the road and invited him to ride. The or frauds. That which is received as money, and which is designed to pass from runners back of the cutter box and rode in hand to hand as such, should not be liable that position. Mr. Howes suspected there to become valueless in the transition. And it will not if real money, instead of paper his passenger, but happening to look forpromises, is made the medium of ex

ought not to be infringed upon. The prop- escape. The next day, a German named osition before the convention to prohibit the G. Eggleffstien was arrested on suspicion and to exclude the small note issues from the State, constitutes the first necessary pret the sentiments of the people of the State on the bank question, they will demend of the convention hard money as a

Judge Harris.

Circuit Court adjourned last Friday after a session of eight weeks, and Judge Harris returned to his home in Morris, to enjoy a season of rest from his protracted labors.

And here we will say to behalf of Judge Harris, that the able manner in which he and river in this city, the wheel of one of has presided over our Circuit Court has the cars broke, by which two cars were was another novelty. won him the respect of every one who has thrown off the track forcing the portion of had business with, or occasion to observe the bridge over the canal from its foundaits proceedings. During the past term, a tion, which together with the two cars were large number of important suits-both percipitated into the canal. Several carcivil and criminal-bave been disposed of. able counsel for which our Court is dis- Bowles of this city, and J. McMurtry of tinguished, with protracted zeal and exten Geneseo, were severely injured. Mr. Philsive legal scumen. The difficulties of a lips had his thigh broken. The other men Judge in such contests can be better imag- were injured internally. The cars were ined than described.

Judge Harris, however, has passed thro' Court, and all parties join in his praise .- soon had a strong force of men engaged re-The soundness of his decisions and his moving the wreck and preparing the timassuasive manners render him popular bers for a new bridge, and at ten o'clock on with every one. As a jurist, he has few equals in the State.

A New TRIAL GRANTED .- William Zeopf. whose trial and conviction for the murder of Benjamin Pickles occupied a large portion of the recent term of our Circuit Court, torney Logan and J. H. Quinn for the peo- canine species.

Taxation.

This is a familiar term. We presume every man of intelligence knows its meaning. It is not necessary, therefore, for us to give its definition.

But, in the history of this Government, never before have the people been so near a realization of the crushing weight of oppressive and burdensome taxation. Heretofore the country has felt little of the evils resulting from national expenditures. The money derived from duties imposed on imports and the sale of public lands has been more than sufficient for all government wants. The only direct taxes levied upon the people were for State and municipal ourposes. These, it is true, have sometimes been considered onerous and oppressive, but in reality have been scarcely felt amidst the reign of plenty, prosperity and

A new era is now about to dawn upon rible civil war with a portion of its own though they have struggled for months and they are unfit for. States in a state of defence, and according may be put down. to the same reckoning it will require the time of ten years and a million of lives to accomplish the complete overthrow of the spirit of disalovity by the dread alterna

Hence the prospect of enormous and crushing taxation presents itself. Our expenses are now over two millions of dollars daily and are increasing rapidly. Already our financial officers have exhausted nearly every means in their power. They have borrowed until the capitalists are beginning to wary of how they let their money from its earliest history, is hostile to every | go on Government pledges. The Treasury Note system has failed to supply the necessary sinues of war. The only alternative is taxation. The money must be raised by

As a beginning, the Committee of Ways tives have agreed to report in favor of rais-It will fall upon Illinois to raise \$15,000,-We are aware that there are those who | 000 of this vast sum. This tax will come

This is no idle speculation. It is with system of banking as legalized in this State, man will have to pay four times as much is hostile not only to sound prosperity and taxes as he has been in the habit of payimprovement among the people but inimiling heretofore. We don't see where the cal to the great Democratic principle of gov- money is to come from; but there is no ernment-equal rights-and therefore the dodging it. The people have got to consooner it be wiped out the better. And in tribute the means to sustain the Governreply to the latter objection, we would ment or it will go down. Then, let every refer to Havana, with a commerce of mil- one, and especially those who aided by lions annually, that never has had a bank their votes to bring about this horrible or paper money, and to New Orleans, the state of affairs, prepare to pay their enorlargest exporting city in America, where mous taxes without murmuring. It will

ATTEMPT TO MURDER .- B. F. Hewes, Esq., of Crete in this country, miraculously horse and entter, when he overtook a man man declined to get in, but stepped on the was something wrong, and kept his eye on ward he was shot in the back of the neck His overcoat and the thick furs that encir-Howevermuch we detest paper money, eled his neck, checked the ball so that be we do not expect or desire the overthrow of was not dangerously injured. A struggle our banking system suddenly. The char | then ensued and the man was driven away tered privileges of banks already existing from the cutter, when Mr. Hewes made his legislature from creating any new banks for the commission of the crime, and upon comparing the ball found in Mr. Hewes' neck with a pair of bullet molds discovered secreted in one of the prisoner's boots they were found to correspond. A pistol was found in his possession, and he could give no account of himself at the time the outrage was committed. He was also recognized by Mr. Hewes as resembling the man who shot him. He was brought to this city and lodged in jail to await trial at the next term of our Circuit Court. It is supposed

that robbery was his purpose. RAILBOAD ACCIDENT .- On Saturday morning last as the freight train from the West was crossing the bridge over the canal penters were at work covering the bridge, Many of these cases were contested by the three of whom, O. P. Phillips and John loaded with hogs, twenty or thirty of which were killed. Mr. Moore, the roudmaster new structure in safety.

We learn that mad dogs have made their appearance in the vicinity of Wilmington. Two were killed there last week, after having bitten a number of cattle and other stock. Would it not be well for our city authorities to have the dog ordinance put in force? Our city is cursed

1t is said that Cassius M. Clay will be made a Major General on his return and Lovejoy, and Carl Schurz should be

Harper's and Peterson's Magazines. Godies Ludy Book, and in fact all the pop-

What has Congress Done!

Congress has been in session eight weeks, and though the country is on the brink of dissolution and destruction, nothing has been done to avert the dire calamity,

There is not a dollar in the cublic treasury and the national debt is accomuting at the rate of two and a half millions of dollars daily, and yet Congress does nothing but wrangle over the negro slavery question. The everlasting negro is the only topic of discussion, and the vast interests of the nation are neglected that be may have his usual share of attention.

Indeed the Sumners, the Lovejoys, the Wilsons, the Lanes, and the citra men who control both branches of our national legislature, seem to have forgotten that we are in the midst of a desperate civil war brought on by the triumph of their party and doctrines. They do not appear to care that they have been mainly instrumental in The Government is engaged in a ter- bringing on the fearful struggle. They continue to talk about the wrongs of pegro subjects, who have rebelled against its au- bondage as if nothing at all had happened. thority. For ten months the deadly and Their hearts are fixed on their emancing. annalling conflict has raged. More than tion scheme-the dragging down thirty. half a million of men are in arms and millions of white men that four millions of striving to crush the insurrection, but negroes may be lifted up to a position that

fought many bloody battles, the rebellion is The Secretary of the Treasury eight weeks as defiant and menacing as it was at the ago besought U-ngress to come to the resone aid and the closest scrutiny. time when our powerful army was called and preserve the country from bankruptey. into the field. And it may be safely cal- dishotor and ruin. A d how have they culated, if there he no change of policy- beed d his urgent requests? By quarrels if no terms of peace or compromise are to ling about what shall be the future condition be entertained until the rebel States are of the negroes, and neglecting to provide subjugated-the war will not be brought the necessary means for the sustenance of to a successful termination for a long se- of the patriotic men who have rallied at ries of years. It has taken ten months | their country's call-and are facing the with all our vast army to fortify Washing- privations of the came and the dangers of dence says; ton and to place our borders on the seceded | the battle field, that the unhely rebellion

It is high time that Congress should do something to relieve the national treasury from its terrible embarrassments. The nation is perishing for the want of decided legislative action. Let it be delayed no

BERGLARY .- On the night of the 21st inst., the grocery store of Messrs. R R. Allen & Co., in Elwood's new block, was broken open and about twelve dollars in money, four sacks of flour and a quantity of candies and cigars stolen. The thief proved to be Richard Simpson, aged about 17 years, whose father-an honest mandiscovered the stolen goods secreted on his premises, and gave information to Mr. Allen. The young burglar was arrested by Sheriff Bartlett and lodged in jail. He made his entrance by cutting a hole through the door large enough to admit his hund, and reaching the key which had been left in the lock on the inside.

Important from New Mexico. Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 20. Santa Fe mails, with dates to the 7th,

have arrived. The express from Mesilla arrived at Santa Fe on the evening of the 4th, and reports that 1,500 Texans, with seven pieces were marching on Fort Craig, and were within thirty miles of that post .-and a severe battle was expected, as the Texans were fighting principally for food. Gov. Connelly has called out the entire mil-

the 5th, which reports that the enemy had retreated without an attack. It was not known whether Col. Cauby intends to follow him or not.

The scouts from Pecos had not arrived when the mail left. Col. Canby had 100 regulars and 1,500 volunteers and militia in his command. All is excitement at Santa Fe. Martial law has been declared in the district. The through passengers by this arrival are Cal. Street, J. Howe Watts, and John

Mr. seward's Novelties

The spectacle of on army acousedly has tile in its mission passing to its destination blast of war, would be something novel in the history of States. Imagine Russia asking permission of England to make Malto a depot for its navy during the Crimean war, or France transporting its troops for the Italian campaign by way of Salzburg, Tienna and Trieste. - Ecc. Jour-

Mr. Seward is a fruitful inventor of nov

The "irrepressible conflict," that proclaimed that free and slave States could not live together in the same union; was a novelty of Mr. Seward. No statesman, from the day of Washington down, ever dreamed His speech to the Duke of Newcastle,

we must insult you," was a novelty. His threats against Canada were novel-His promise to the South Carolina Commissioners, that Fort Sumter should be peaceably evacuated, was a novelty; and us

His prophecy, that the war should be over in thirty days, was a novelty; as have been all his prophecies since. The fulfil! ment of one of them would be an agreeable

His invention of the idea of blockading one's own ports was a novelty in international law; and his treatment of rebels as foreign enemies, while denying them belligerent rights, was another.

His letter to Gov. Hicks, succeing at the representatives of monarchies, was a nov-His circulars to the Governor of the States on the subject of frontier defences,

His declaration, that the recognition of the South by European powers would be resented by us by a general war upon all Enrope, is a novelty in doctrine, and would be a greater one in practice. His arrest of Loyal citizens, in peaceful

States, by telegraph, is a novelty, which it | to day from Ohio is to be hoped may return to plague the His invention of a passport system, with-

gives free scope to traitors, is another nov- trip southward His long reply to a demand never made in the Slidell and Mason case, and his dexterous proving our right to seize and our duty to surrender those envoys is a novelty

His continuance of universal corruption, Sunday night, trains were passing over the at a time of great national necessity, is a novelty in the min is of all patriots. His selection of such diplomatic repre-

sentatives as Giddings, Helper, Burlingame & Co., is another novelty. His proposed surrender of the right of privateering, without an equivalent, is a

His abandonment of the Monroe doctrine is a novelty. His irritating despatches to foreign courts are novelties in manner and temper and

His invitation to England to send her troops to Canada, through Maine, is a mamacal novelty. Finally, Mr. Seward, acting as a states man, and managing the affairs of a great nation, in a great crisis, is a novelty that the world has never yet seen the like of,

and probably never will again. Reviewing Mr. Seward's labors for the last year, we doubt if Dumas, or Walter writ of replevin have not been molested.

The Sheriff and his possee, who have the grounds stated by "A Citizen" there was Zollicoffer's aids, when he tarned and shot will communicate with you on that will communicate with you on that we have not been molested.

From Washington.

Special Dispatches to the Chicago Times. Washington, Jan. 23. Gen. McCiellan attended the opera last

night, with the family of President Line In. He appeared in civilians dress. Judge Swayne, the new Judge of the Supreme Court, appointed from Ohio, is a native of Virginia. He is a conservative republican. A dispatch to Senator Johnson, from an

officer in the buttle of Mill Creek, leaves no doubt of the death of Zollicoffer. The P-tomac flotilla has put a stop to the erection of a new rebel battery near Mount Vernon,

Garret Davis continued his speech in the Senate to-day, on the war and slavery questions. Commenting on the radical elit any hope could be entertained of the restoration of the Union if there was any interference by the Federal government with the slaves Senator Harlan, of Iowa, replied, advo-

en ing the arming of the slaves. John Tocker, of Philadelphia, formerly President of the Rending Railroad Company, and P. H. Watson, a leading lawyer of this city, were to day nominated for Assistant Secretaries of War. Both are democrats. Col Scott, the Assistant under secretary Cameron, and the First Assistant ow, is also a democrat. The Joint Committee on the Conduct of

the War contemplate the investigation of certain contracts made under the late adwhich Secretary Stanton promises every A new tax bill is in the bands of the ub Committee of Ways and Means. Several weeks will probably clapse before it is

The Senate to day, in executive session, confirming Brigadier Generals Schoepff and Ord for meritorious services in the

New York, Jan. 23. The N Y. Tribune's special correspon-

· Secretary Stanton had an interview of we hours in the Senate Committee rooms. this morning, with the Military Committees of both houses. All the sixteen members were present. The Secretary gave his views freely on his plan of conducting the war, and expressed a desire to be at all times informed for his guidance of matters of public interest coming before either committee. He stated that a full and com plete list of all the contracts made by or for the War Department since the commercement of the war, with the name of every contractor or purchaser, should be

"Col. Scott, the present Assistant Secre tary, is to have special charge of railroad transportation matters, and Congress has een asked to give the Secretary of War control of all the railroads in the United States whenever the interest of the war shall demand it. John Tucker, the Second A-sistant, is to have charge of will the transportation by sea, the chartering of vessels &a. Mr. Watson, the Third Assistant is to have control of all the rolls and general business connected with the troops in the field.

"Senator Johnson, of Tennosses, has received a dispatch from Major Hooper, stat ing, is substance, as follows: "Zollie for is indeed dead. I have seen his body -Our victory is overwhelming. The rebels are driven from this entire section of the country, and Kentucky will soon be free

"Congress will make two new Judical Circuit .- one of Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota, and another of Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, and Kansas. Secre-Scouts from the fort had been driven in, tary Smith is talked of for one, and for the other Senator Browning and Judge Davis. of Illinois, have been suggested. "The President is said to have declared

to-day that he appreciates the very great services rendered by Gen. Sigel, and that justice will be done him by creating him a General of Division; also, that Col. Koerner, of lowa, will be made a Brigadier The World's dispatch says :

"At no time since the army of the Poto mae has been organized have the roads in Virginia been in such a condition, in consequence of the rain and snow,"

Washington, Jan. 24. Although there is a majority in the Senate in favor of the expulsion of Senator Bright, there is not enough to secure the requeste constitutional two third vote. Mr. Latham will speak in Bright's de ence on Monday,

The Secretary of Navy states, in a communication to Congress to-day, that the ships of the line Wirginia and Alabame. at the Charlestown, Massachusetts, Navy Yard, may be converted into steam ships

The Committee on the District of Colum bia have decided to report a bill authorizing the banks in the District of Columbia to issue small notes. The Committee on the Conduct of the War reported a bill to-day creating a new

Bureau, in the Navy Department of Detail and equipment, and one of Engineers and Machinery, to be presided over by officers of the navy. A bill for the reorganization of the Medical Department of the army has been agreed up a by the Sanitary Commission.

On Monday the Naval Committee will reply to the late communication of Secretary Welles defending himself from charges of corruption. Secretary Stanton has authorized two lummissioners to visit Richmond to take

all needful measures to provide for the comfort of the Federal prisoners there. There is considerable opposition to the Treasury note bill reported by the Commit

tee of Ways and Means. The Committee on Military Affairs have decided to report a bill introducing the homospathis practice in some of the government hospitals.

In the army bill passed to-day, there was a provision changing the judicial districts in the western States. The executive session of the Secate confirmed Judge Swayne as Judge of the Su

preme Court, and P. H. Watson as Assistant Secretary of War. The House Committee on Commerc have before them the question of the repeal the reciprocity treaty between the Upi-

ted States and Great Britain. Washington, Jan. 25.

Judge Swayne takes his seat on the Supreme Bench on Monday. He arrived here Congressman Ely, of Rochester N. Y.

arrived here to day, and will resume his place in Congress on Monday, for the first out law, which annoys loyal citizens and time since July last, when he started on his port that the rebels have constructed a new battery near Mathia- Point

> The violent storm last night has rendered the condition of the roads, slready had worse than ever. They are now almost impassable. A large delegation of bankers here is

> opposing the bill making Treasury demand tes a legal tender. Intelligence has been received confirmatory of the landing of the Burnside expedition on Roanske Island.

Owing to much illness among Farnsworth's Illinois cavalry, the regiment was | two of the grand jury the evidence detailed moved into comfortable quarters to-day, in full, stated, in reply to one who stood by within the city of Alexandria. From St. Louis.

St Louis, Jan. 24, There are one hundred and forty-five inmates in the military prison, the last lodger being Samuel Engls, who attempted to replevy the candles seized by order of Gen. Halleck for non payment of the assessment for the maintenance of Union refuges. His attorney (Cex) and his security (Childs)

and he is not to return without permission on pain of being punished according to the

articles of war. The order concludes as follows: "Mar ial law having been ordered in this city by authority of the President of the United States, all civil authorities, of whatever name or office are hereby notified that any attempt on their part to interfere with the execution of any order issued from these headquarters, or to impede, molest, or trouble any officer duly appointed to carry nto effect such order, will be regarded as a military offence, and punished accordingly.

"The Provost Marshal General will arrest each and every person, of whatever rank or office, who attempts in any way to prevent or interfere with the execution of my orders issued from these headquart-

The furniture of Dr Wro M McPheters, to Physician to the Marine Hospital, has been levied upon, in default of the pay-

ment of his assessment. The prisoners in McDowell's College will be sent to Alton, probably on Monday. The river is gorged with ice, from this city to a point twenty five miles below, and it will be some time before the troops can be sent by water to Cairo, The river is open just above the city, and

the ferry beats are running. Gen Smith is returning from Paducah, and probably reached there to-day, baving found no enemy during his absence. He did not reach Fort Henry. Gen. Grant has arrived in this city from

Cairo, to confer with Gen. Hulleck. Orders have been received from Washngton, to look into the accusations against Gen, Mckinstry, and make out charges for a court martial to act on, if he is consider-

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVEN--Special Dispatches to the Chicago Times.

Springfield, Ill., Jan 21.

The fo'll wing is the amount of war bonds sold up to date, as presented by the Treasurer in an official communication to the convention .

Five hundred and three \$1,000 bonds which realized \$423.810 - eight hundred and seventy five \$500 bonds, realizing \$372.550; seven hundred and ninety nine \$100 bonds, realizing \$68,080. \$1,373,352 have been received from the United States. There remains of war funds in the treasury

The Committee on Banks seported an amendment to the constitution to take effect immediately, that no banks shall be chartered in the State; that no existing charters shall be revived; and that no foreign bills of less than \$10 shall circulate in the State. Penalties for a violation of this section are engrafted in the amendment .-The report is made a special order for

The convention went into committee the whole on Article 3, but adjourned with out making any progress. The per diem system of compensation

the Legislature will be adhered to. . Springfield, Jan 22 Governor Yates, this morning, sent in a communication showing the amount and description of the State indebtedness. The

total amount owed by the State is \$11,-400,000, one million of which is for war bonds The Committee on Judiciery reported that it is the opinion of the committee that the convention has the power to apportion the State into Congressional districts .--They regard the provision in the constituion of the United States, that the Legislatures of the States shall do this, as not

referring to a Legislature in its technical sense, but that the convention is a Legisla. ture in the intent and meaning of the procommittee of the while,

Four dollars per day was decided upon as compensation to members of the Legislature. Much time was consumed in debate, but nothing further was reseived upon.

Springfield, Jan. 23. Another day, and nothing of moment James F. Dwver presented a patition

praying the Convention to reinforce him for court expenses in contesting Mr. C'M. b. very's seat and to allow him to leave -Referred to the Committee on Elections. The Auditor sent in a statement of the amount of war warrants drawn, amount- the river to morrow to pick up the bal ing to \$3 244 000. There has been re-

ceived from the United States nearly \$1 amble and resolution, declaring the char- known ters of banks which suspended specie payment forfeited, and prohibiting the Auditfrom furnishing them with additional circulation. It was made the special order

for Wednesday. Mr Wentworth presented a minority substitute which will be considered at the same time. A variety of reports and resolutions of

minor importance were read, and the Convention went into Committee of the Whole Springfield, Jan. 24. The convention held but a short session this morning, and adjourned until Tues-

next, but the motion was laid on the table -43 to 18. Several communications were presented

from the Governor and other State officers. which were not read, but will be published with the proceedings.

some reports of committees of no general interest, and other lesser business was transacted, when the convention adjourned. The members have nearly all left town, some for home and many to Cairo.

A few resolutions of small importance,

For the Joliet Signal.

Some one over the signature of "A Citizen," in his agonies over a disappointed pleasure in witnessing a fellow man strangling in the agonies of death on the fall of the drop, or through a too credulous attention to street rumor, in a communication to the True Democrat of last Saturday, perpetrates an act of the grossest injustice upon the moral stamina and judicial ability of his Honor S. W. Harris, the presiding

Judge of this Circuit. 1st. In referring to a motion for a new trial to outside political influence being brought to bear upon the Court, and 2d. In so presenting the opinion of the Court that the new trial was granted for causes that are not sufficient in law. It is not true as stated in the following extract

from said article : "1st. That one of the jurors easually remarked to those who detailed the evi dence to him of Zeopf's being guilty, that if that was the case, he (the juror) should think he (Zoord) might be quilty-hence his incompetence as a juror, "2d. That, as appeared in evidence, Mr.

him, three days after the trial had been in progress the he (Convis) would procure the assistance of Mr. Van Arman, of Chi-But it is true that the first cause alleged and proven on behalf of the prisoner was that one of the jury, after hearing from

and said I believe Zeopf is the murderer of Pickles, "I believe so too." It is further true that it was in evidence before the Court that Mr Zeopf was assured by Mr. Convis, before the trial commen ced, that if he (Zeopt) would agree to go into trial at this term of the Court, that he (Convis) would have Van Arman conduct the case, and that up in that consideration and none other the prisoner agreed to go to

Upon those grounds the Court could not

Fram Caire.

Cairo, Ill., San 23. A council of river men was held to day consider the probability of an overflow o the Ohio at Fort Holt, and it was decided there was no danger so long as the Missisippi remains at a stand.

directing the rebels to disperse and tax themselves in the best way they could The Journal cased the Cumberland and The order of the removal of the troops, is hunting the flying rebels through Ways therefore, from Fort Holt, has been revok-

Advices from General Smith's command to night state that he had been within wenty miles of Fort Henry, which is sixty miles from Paducab, on the Tennessee bank of the Tennessee River.

After getting two cannon and about fits General Smith went from there gunboat, on a reconnoissance, to within two and a half mites of the rebel fort.

The gunboat fired at the fort, drawing their fire, which fell half a mile short. It is thought that one of the new gunboats could take the fort, by shelling out

We have nothing further here in relation the occupation of Camp Beauregard by Gen. Smith; but it is known the rebels have aban loned it.

the rebels.

General Smith started with his command restorday for Paducah, and will reach there morrow.

Noleman's Cavalry were out in the south west last night, from Bird's Point. They went ten miles in search of the parties who had shot the four Union pickets a week ago, and captured "Old Keene," and two others, who were accessory to the act. The prisoners are now confined, in irons,

at the goard house at Bird's Point. Golonel John A. Logan, of the Thirtyfirst Itlinois, returned from Washington this morning. General Grant and Cantain Hilver leave

in the morning for St. Louis, to be abvent, lowever, only a few days. No new arrival of troops to day

Cairo, Ill., January 24. Commander Graham seized last night leven of the barges belonging to the pontoon bridge at Paducah. They had taken

There are a large number of men anxous to be transferred to the gunboat service from infantry regiments, but their officers refuse to permit thom, as it will deplete the regiments. What will be done in the matter has not yet been decided up

leave during the recent high water.

Very recent orders from Washington direct that the bomb ketches are to be mmediately fitted and manned for the ser-

General Ha'leck is requested, from the same source, to furnish the men necessar

Flag-Officer Foote sent an officer to Pitts ourgh this morning, to urge the prompt completion of the mortars constructing Firing was heard at twelve o'click to day down the river, in the direction of our

gunboats. The cause is not known.

Colonel Webster has just left to take down to Columbus a rebel prisoner by name t Graves. He goes by authority of Gener The gunboats St. Louis and Essex, with the Fifty secound Itlinois, Lieutenant C. 1 Wilcox, and the Seventh Iowa, Colone Saumae, who were temporarily stationed at

Fort Holt, went up the Ohio to night to mithland, at the mouth of the Cumberand River ; but the object of the expedition is unknown. Col Webster, who went to Columbus with a flag of truce to day, returned this evening, but no incident occurred worth mentioning, except that the rebels have taken up the large chain which was stretch ed across the river. It was on board the rebel boat wich met our Bug of truce. The

a white flag of truce themselves, in a few transport, was fired into to day by some straggling rebels at Perry's Landing, on her way to St. Louis. No damage was one to the best or the crew.

Cape Girardean to look after the rebels. There were one hundred Confederate envalry in Blandville, Kentucky, yesterday They carried off the records of Baltard S xry one of the barges belonging to the ntoon bridge at Padeenh have broken

from their moorings, and fourteen of the Commander Graham will send forats on

An expedition of one inferry regiment and several cavalry companies left The Committee on Banks reported a pre Bird's Point to day; destination not

The firing down the river to day was no abredly the expedition which left Bird's Point, as noother cause can be as-The Ohio River is still rising, and at four

'clock was within two feet of the bank at The weather is warm and tleasant.

The Battle at Somerset, Ky. Cincinati, Jan. 21. A special disputch from Louisville says dispatches just received at headquarters at nounce that the battle did not take place on Saturday, but on Sunday evening and that Gen. Thomas continued the pursuit until night set in. Our forces followed the rebels, who ran before them in the wildest confusion, like a flock of trightened sheep close up to their intrenchments on the north bank of the river In front of these they laid all night, expecting to storm them

in the morning; but with the aid of their boats and barges, the enemy managed to get across the river before daylight. They left behind, however, all their artillery, ammunition, horses, tents, eighty wagon loads of quartermaster, commissary and medical stores, all of which fell into our hands. Our troops had possession of all their intrenchments early in the morn-

After reaching the opposite side, the rebels dispersed in every directon. Two bundred dead and wounded rebals were picked up on the field, among them Zollicoffer and Baillie Peyton, Jr. Zollicoffer was found mortally wounded in a wag-

but must have been considerable. The surgeon of the Teoth Indiana telegraphs that his regiment has seventy killed and wounded General Thomas' division embraces

some of the best regiments in the depart-

Louisville, Jan. 22. General Thomas now reports the Federal less at 39 killed and 127 wounded .-Among the wounded is Col. Robt. H. Mc-Cook, of the Ninth Okio, and his aid, Lieut railroad bridges as a military act, 18 Burt, of the Eighteenth United States kill them if possible in open warfatt Infantry. The rebel loss is Gen. Zollicoffer and 114 others killed and buried; 116 wounded; and 45 prisoners not wounded, 5 of whom were surgeons, and Lieutennant A H. Convis, Zeopi's attorney in the trial, Colonel Carter, of the Seventeenth Tennesdeceived the prisoner by representing to see regiment. The prisoners say General George B. Crittenden was first in command, Zollicoffer second. Crittenden fled to the woods, taking the wrong road. It is supposed he will be captured.

> the Tenth Indiana, Fourth Kentucky, Second Minnesota and Ninth Ohio. Their respective loss was in the order named .-They were reinforced after the first Somerset engagement by the Twelfth and Tenth Kentucky, First and Second Tennessee, Fourteenth, Thirty First, Thirtieth, and Thirty Eighth Ohio, and Standard's, Whitmore's and Henney's batteries. The rebel force was estimated at 10 -

Green Clay, of Bourbon county, son Brutus Clay, aid to Shoepff, but with Gen Thomas in the engagement, has just arrived, bringing an elegant silk rebel flag.

Col. S. S. Fry, of the 4th Kentucky, had "I am o

After getting two cannot and about the wagons across the river, they abanded them with all the ammunition in the dept them with all the animum to the dept at Mill Spring. They then three say their arms and dispersed through the direction of the mountains in the direction of Mont so demoralized that I don't believe will make a stand short of Tennesses. property captured this side the river is a great value, amounting to eight 6-pende and two Parrott guns, with caise as sind with ammunition; about 500 four horse wagons; about 1200 horses and miles boxes of arms never opened, and from the 1000 muskets, mostly flat locks; satisfact ce stores for the entire army for three in and a large amount of hospital sto Our loss was 39 killed and 127 would The loss of the rebels was 114 killed and The loss of the buried, and 45 prisoners at

Ohio, ordering his regiment to charge far

onets, which put the rebels to immedia

flight. The last order issued was found in

flight. The last the rebel encampment, and was signed

"Col. Cummings, Senior in Command.

The Journal says Gen. Thomas, with a

The fellowing was received from beat

The route of the enemy is complete

marters to night from Gen. Thomas:

Washington, Jan 22

From Fortress Monroe, Fortress Monroe, Jan. 22

wounded, 5 of whom are surgeons, as

Lieut, Col. Cartor, of a Tennessee

There has been no arrival from the Barn side Expedition as yet. The Norfolk Day Book, of Wednesday
has a dispatch dated Goldsboro', Jan 21s.
4 P. M., announcing that 100 ressels of the Burnside Expedition are inside of panle Sound, and 20 steamers outside. No attack had been made, but women and children were leaving New berne, where a fight is expected to up

Baltimore, Jan 22 The American's special correspondent Ft Monroe, says that a flag of truce was to Norfolk yesterday with Lieut Rett. released prisoner returning South & was made a prisoner in Western Turch and was released on purole and will beg. changed for Liest. Gordon, who was not a prisoner by the rebels in Missouri, The Norfolk Day Book of Wednesday contains the following telegram: Savannab, Jan 21 "From forty to fifty ressels are inside

None of the Southern papers make at reference to the fight at Somerset, Kr. to the defeat and death of General 2. Im portant Correspondence. The following important military area

Broad River, fifteen miles from Port Re

nondence has taken place between Gesen Price and Halleck: The material points of Price's letters as follows: "Springfield, Jan 12 180 "GENERAL-I have received informer that, as Major General commanding & department, you have either ordered

abowed the arrest of citizens in theres. of their usual avocations; that them officers and privates, lalenging his army, have been taken prisoners in Kansas borders and convered to La Leavenworth as such, and for name establised offence or crime have been de In some cases I have learned that midcharged solliers have been siezed where rebel officers informed Colonel Webster that and wherever they have shown thems they would have occasion to come up with and that they have been, by military me cion forced into servitude unknown no cases. I have obtained informatical individuals and parties of men, term appointed and instructed by me to dea ratificad culverts and bridges by terr them up, burning' &c., have been ares Colonel Ross sent a party of eavalry from and subjected to general court manuals al eged crimes which all laws of sole beretofore recognized by the cities would have regarded as distinctly pap and lawful. I have learned that saily sons, when tried, if convicted of the for or offences, as stated, are viewed as had

subjects for capital punishment. "These statements I count believent erreet. But let us understand end in

on this ruljet. Dayou maend to continue the arms. citizens engaged in their ordinary pani pursuits, and treat them as traine at retet? If so, will you make riding with me for such as may or will milefe similar causes? Do you intend to regi members of this army as pers as deere death, whenever and wherever ther m be captured, or will you extend to the the recognized rights of prisoner du by the code of the civilized wild! you regard the destruction of imposiroads, transportation tacibites, &c. mulitary purposes, as the legal right of belligerent power? Do you intendue gard men whom I have especially diggst ed to destroy roads, burn bridges, tur fi culverts, &c., as ameniable to the com court martial, or will you have then aid

as usual, by the proper civil authoria according to the statutes of the State! STERLING PRICE Maj. Gen. Com Missouri State Gurl The fellowing embraces the main in ures of Halleck's reply :

"GENERAL-Your letter, dated Spring field, January 12th, is received. "The troops of which you complain, the Kansas frontier, and at Fort Learn worth, are not under my command. regard to them, I respectfully refer jul Major General David Hunter, community the Department of Kansas, headquarent

Fort Leavenworth. "You also complain that individuales parties of men especially appointed al instructed by you to destroy railrest, averts, and bridges, by tearing them a burning, &c., have been arrested saint jected to a general court martial for ales crimes. Where individuals and parties men violate the laws of war, they will tried, and, if found guilty, will certain be punished, whether acting under H Our loss is not definitely ascertained,

special appointment and instruction "You must be aware, General, the orders of yours can save from punish spies, marauders, robbers, incendis guerrilla bands, etc., who violate the is of war. You cannot give imment

"But let us fully understand erchi on this point. "If you send an armed force, the garb of seldiers, and duly orpid and enrelled as belligerents, to be

we capture them we shall treat her prisoners of war; but it is well under that you have sent numbers of part herents, in the garb of peaceful case and under false pretence, through out into Northern Missouri, to rob and disthe property of the Union men, and is and destroy railroad bridges, thus raise ering the lives of thousands; and the without any military necessity of jost The Federal forces actively engaged were "Moreover, peaceful citizens of Miss military advantages.

instigated by your emissaries to arms as insurgents, and rob, plands, commit arson and murder. even act under false pretences, and guise of peageful citizens. "You certainly will not pretent men guilty of such crimes, although see

ties of ordinary prismers of war. do, will you refer me to a single sale on the laws of war which recognite

the Government, will ternish the fair fame of his Presidential career.

of

quietly working on their farms, hare ly appointed and instructed by you